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PATENT

Our Docket: 66655-021 (P-NI 4447)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE **RECEIVED**

APR 14 2003

In re Application of )  
Tononi et al. )  
Serial No: 09/733,607 )  
Filed: December 8, 2000 )  
For: VIGILANCE NUCLEIC ACIDS )  
AND RELATED DIAGNOSTIC, )  
SCREENING AND THERAPEUTIC) )  
METHODS )

Conf. No.: 4199  
Group Art Unit: 1647  
Examiner: S. Wegert

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

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**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

Responsive to the Office Action mailed  
November 5, 2002, Applicants respectfully request entry of the  
following Remarks.

**REMARKS**

Claims 12 and 13 are presently pending and under  
examination.

**Regarding the Claim Objections**

Claims 12 and 13 are objected to for allegedly reciting  
non-elected inventions. While the Office will conduct its search  
with regard to the elected species, Applicants respectfully  
submit that there is no requirement to amend the pending claims  
so as to remove recitation of non-elected species.